



Western  
Pennsylvania  
Chapter

## Associated Builders and Contractors of Western Pennsylvania

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# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ABC Applauds McKeesport Area School District for Preserving Competition**

McKeesport, PA – The McKeesport Area School District (MASD) board of directors recently rejected a project labor agreement (PLA), which would have discriminated against and prohibited eighty-five percent of the construction industry from bidding on an upcoming \$62 million consolidated project. By rejecting this agreement, the MASD will preserve competition and keep markets open -- in return, saving taxpayer's money within the school district. Members of the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) of Western Pennsylvania met with the McKeesport Building and Grounds Committee on May 26, 2010 urging the Committee to vote against a PLA.

“The McKeesport Area School District has taken tremendous steps in not only saving taxpayer money, but also providing educational and work opportunities to aspiring apprentices within the school district,” said ABC member Richard Bosco, of Ryco, Inc. Bosco participates in the school district's School-to-Work program, through which he hires two graduates each year and pays for their four-year apprenticeship program.

ABC has been the watch-dog of many recent construction projects which have prohibited merit shop companies from bidding projects, particularly at academic institutions which are funded by taxpayer dollars. The Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC) is currently debating a PLA for all future projects at the school, which would close the market for all upcoming projects. ABC anticipates that the McKeesport ruling will serve as an example to CCAC in their upcoming project. As citizens in Allegheny County, McKeesport residents should carry the momentum from the MASD decision and realize the high-costs attached by the potential CCAC labor agreement.

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*Associated Builders and Contractors of Western Pennsylvania is part of a national association representing more than 25,000 merit shop construction and construction-related firms in 77 chapters across the United States. For more information, visit ABC of Western PA's Web site, [www.abcwpa.org](http://www.abcwpa.org). For communications inquiries, please contact Loren Cribbs at [lcribbs@abcwpa.org](mailto:lcribbs@abcwpa.org).*